

FORT PECK TRIBES

Office of Environmental Protection

R08-19-A-008

FORT PECK TRIBES FY19 BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT GRANT Narrative Information Sheet

1. Applicant Identification

Fort Peck Assiniboiné and Sioux Tribes
501 Medicine Bear Rd.
P.O. Box 1027
Poplar, MT 59255

2. Funding Requested

- a. Assessment Grant Type: Community-Wide
- b. Federal Funds Requested
 - i. Requested Amount: \$300,000
 - ii. Site-Specific Assessment Grant waiver of \$200,000 limit: N/A
- c. Contamination: Hazardous Substance

3. Location

Fort Peck Indian Reservation. The sites are tribal trust land.

4. Property Information for Site-Specific Proposals: N/A

5. Contacts

- a. Project Director

Wilfred Lambert, Brownfields Tribal Response Program Coordinator
Office of Environmental Programs, Fort Peck Assiniboiné and Sioux Tribes
PO Box 1027
Poplar, Montana 59255
Phone: (406) 768-2322; Fax: (406) 768-5606
Email: wlambert@fortpecktribes.net
- b. Chief Executive/Highest Ranking Elected Official

Floyd G. Azure, Tribal Chairman
Fort Peck Assiniboiné & Sioux Tribes
501 Medicine Bear Road
P.O. Box 1027
Poplar, MT 59255
Phone: (406)768-2300; Fax: (406)768-5478

6. Population

The 2015 U.S. Census population estimate for the Fort Peck Indian Reservation is 10,374. Approximately 7,000 are enrolled tribal members.



Poplar, Montana 59255

P.O. Box 1027

(406) 768-2300

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7. Other Factors Checklist

Other Factors Checklist		
	Other Factor	Page #
	<i>None of the Other Factors are applicable.</i>	
X	Community Population is 10,000 or less.	Narrative Info Sheet; Pg. 1
X	Applicant is, or will assist, a federally recognized Indian tribe or United States territory.	1
	The priority brownfield site(s) is impacted by mine-scarred land.	
	The priority site(s) is adjacent to a body of water (i.e. the border of the priority site(s) is contiguous or partially contiguous to the body of water, or would be contiguous or partially contiguous with a body of water but for a street, road, or other public thoroughfare separating them).	
	The priority site(s) is in a federally designated flood plain.	
	The redevelopment of the priority site(s) will facilitate renewable energy from wind, solar, or geothermal energy; or any energy efficiency improvement projects.	
	30% or more of the overall project budget will be spent on eligible reuse planning activities for priority brownfield site(s) within the target area.	

8. Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority: N/A – The Fort Peck Tribes are the applicant and Tribal Environmental Authority.



FORT PECK TRIBES

Narrative/Ranking Criteria

1. Project Area Description and Plan for Revitalization (30 Points)

a. Target Area and Brownfields (15 points)

i. Background and Description of Target Area (5 points)

In the sparsely populated northeast corner of Montana, 40 miles from North Dakota and 50 miles from the Canadian border, lies the Fort Peck Indian Reservation. The reservation is home to the Assiniboiné and Sioux tribes (Fort Peck Tribes), and it is the second largest reservation in Montana (9th largest in the U.S.) at two million acres. Despite being larger than the state of Delaware, tribal members total 10,374,¹ with about 7,000 living on the reservation². Of these, 8.5% (592 individuals) cannot find safe and stable housing. For comparison, as of 2017, there were approximately 554,000 homeless people in the United States on a given night, or 0.17% of the population.³ The sad truth is too many of our friends and relatives are on the tribal housing waiting list, living in overcrowded or unsafe abandoned homes often contaminated with methamphetamine (meth), asbestos, and lead-based paint (LBP).

To address the housing shortage on the reservation and reduce contaminant exposure, we are requesting a \$300,000 EPA Brownfields Hazardous Substance Assessment Grant. We plan to assess at least 20 homes on the Fort Peck Reservation (the target area), as part of the larger goal to make them habitable again.

Our reservation is dealing with a meth problem that seemed to spike when the most recent oil boom hit the region. U.S. Highway 2 runs through the center of the reservation and is one of the main sources of transportation to and from the Bakken oil fields. The tapping of oil reserves in the Bakken (including on the reservation) brought workers to our region. Our reservation was not prepared for the drug use and crime that followed. As the boom waned, and with it workers, numerous homes on the reservation were abandoned. Some are partially burned. Others are boarded up because they are feared to be meth contaminated. These homes are havens for drug use. While the number of drug cases on the reservation is difficult to quantify, the number of drug cases on U.S. Indian lands rose 700% from 2009 to 2014,⁴ and dependence on meth and other psychostimulants more than tripled for tribes in Montana and Wyoming from 2011 to 2015.⁵

The increased drug use has perpetuated the steady creation of abandoned homes contaminated with meth; many of them tribally-owned. We do not have the financial means to assess them. This EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant will allow us to assess a minimum of 20 tribally-owned homes for meth, asbestos, and LBP that are currently unsafe and uninhabitable. Moreover, as discussed in

¹ http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_15_5YR_DP05&src=pt

² <https://mthcf.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Fort-Peck-CHA.pdf>

³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homelessness_in_the_United_States

⁴ <https://www.businessinsider.com/r-fueled-by-drugs-sex-trafficking-reaches-crisis-on-native-american-reservation-2016-5>

⁵ https://missoulain.com/news/state-and-regional/peer-treatment-program-offers-new-hope-in-fortbelknap/article_d602ea7e-88eb-52ef-8eae-dd57acfe0c9b.html

this application, assessment will result in follow-on cleanup and reuse of these homes by tribal members.

ii. Description of the Priority Brownfield Site(s) (10 points)

The Fort Peck Tribes Housing Authority currently has a list of over 200 homes located throughout the reservation that are owned by the tribes and are either abandoned or burned. The homes are located in the towns of Poplar, Wolf Point, Fort Kipp, Brockton, and Oswego, and contamination is suspected to be present in them. Homeless tribal members have been living in some of these structures despite potential human health threats because there is no homeless shelter on the reservation.

If awarded this Assessment Grant, we will assess the homes as part of a larger goal to clean and revitalize them for occupancy. A good deal of these homes are 1,000–1,500 square feet with two- to four-bedroom homes. We believe it is more affordable to redevelop them than to build anew. Once redeveloped, they will be leased to low-income tribal families. Currently, we have 218 families (592 people) who are homeless and waiting for shelter. By assessing and revitalizing these homes we will be able to provide housing to approximately 10% of the families on our waiting list. This may not sound like a lot, but it would begin to stem the housing crisis, something our Tribal Council fully supports.

b. Revitalization of the Target Area (9 points)

i. Redevelopment Strategy and Alignment with Revitalization Plans (5 points)

The Fort Peck Tribes 2014 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) documents “lack of housing choices” as one of three key development issues facing our tribes, and “more housing” was identified as a goal for the entire reservation. The assessment and redevelopment of homes that are currently abandoned and uninhabitable will address this revitalization goal. Prior to completing assessments, we will perform a general walkthrough of each home to evaluate the overall structural integrity, condition, and potential for reuse. Some will be good candidates for future housing and others not, due to the level of contamination and the degree of dilapidation. Those that appear to require the least amount of renovation will be given priority for assessment. Once assessed, a cleanup plan and estimate will be developed for each home.

After assessment, we will work with the Fort Peck Housing Authority to remediate and redevelop the homes. We plan to apply for an EPA Brownfields Cleanup Grant in the fall of 2020 to obtain funds for cleanup of homes assessed, and by coordinating with the Housing Authority which having access to other funds, we can revitalize the homes and make them available to tribal members by 2022.

ii. Outcomes and Benefits of Redevelopment Strategy (4 points)

Safe, clean housing is the foundation of a strong community. Redevelopment of our abandoned homes will create safe housing for families on our reservation. Safe and stable housing has been

shown to be a fundamental building block to help families move out of poverty.⁶ “Housing is critical to every community,” said Jon Tester, a Montana Senator and member of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee. “Access to safe housing provides families with the foundation they need to launch a successful career and grow our economy.”⁷ According to the National Coalition for the Homeless, drug addiction can be *both* a cause and a result of homelessness.⁸ If we can help reduce the high rate of homelessness on our reservation, we hope to reduce the high rates of drug abuse as well. Finally, we strongly believe the improvement of housing availability will also improve the overall health of our communities. Overcrowding and poor-quality housing have a direct correlation with poor mental health, developmental delays, heart disease⁹, lead poisoning, asthma, and accidental injury.¹⁰ The creation of safe housing creates invaluable benefits for the families in these homes, as well as our community.

c. Strategy for Leveraging Resources (6 points)

i. Resources Needed for Site Reuse (4 points)

Assessment of our brownfield homes will serve as a catalyst for additional funding for cleanup and redevelopment. As part of each assessment, a cleanup plan and estimate will be prepared for each home. This will give us an understanding of how much funding will be required for abatement, and also the information required to submit competitive grants for cleanup and revitalization, such as EPA Brownfields Cleanup Grant and other housing-related grants. Remedial and renovation costs will be covered by our Fort Peck Housing Authority and/or a future EPA Cleanup Grant submitted by our Office of Environmental Protection. The Housing Authority has a history of applying for and receiving Healthy Home Production (HHP) Grants as well as Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) funds.

ii. Use of Existing Infrastructure (2 points)

Redevelopment of contaminated homes on our reservation will take advantage of existing infrastructure. Because we plan to renovate homes at their existing locations, they will remain connected to water, sewer, and/or septic systems. No new or additional infrastructure will be required to revitalize the homes. This will contribute to the sustainability of tribal housing.

2. Community Need and Community Engagement (20 Points)

a. Community Need (12 points)

i. The Community’s Need for Funding (3 points)

We do not have the financial means to conduct brownfields assessments due to limited tax revenue and higher poverty and unemployment on the reservation. We do receive EPA Brownfields 128(a) Tribal Response Program Funds, but these funds allow us to hire and train staff within our Office of Environmental Protection. Although the reservation covers more than two million acres, we only control about half of that land. The privately-owned land is governed by the town or county

⁶ https://www.mrbf.org/sites/default/files/docs/resources/a_working_paper_on_housing_and_poverty.pdf

⁷ https://www.testersenate.gov/?p=press_release&id=5542

⁸ http://www.nationalhomeless.org/factsheets/How_Many.html

⁹ <https://www.rupco.org/wp-content/uploads/pdfs/The-Impacts-of-Affordable-Housing-on-Health-CenterforHousingPolicy-Maqbool.etal.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://www.rupco.org/wp-content/uploads/pdfs/The-Impacts-of-Affordable-Housing-on-Health-CenterforHousingPolicy-Maqbool.etal.pdf>

in which it is located, and taxes go to these communities.¹¹ Unlike counties, tribal governments cannot levy property taxes on tribal land, as it is held in trust by the federal government, and we do not levy income taxes on tribal members. With only 10,000 people living on the reservation, we also have limited capacity to generate funds. The per capita income for our tribal members is extremely low, at only \$15,799, compared to Montana's per capita income of \$28,706.¹² Only 45.8% of the civilian labor force on the reservation is employed compared to 60.1% for all of Montana.¹³ Our poverty rate is 31.6%¹⁴, and approximately 3 out of 4 school age children live in poverty. We have families that shower and do their laundry at the school because they don't have running water at home.¹⁵ What funding we do have goes towards basic necessities such as water, infrastructure and schools, which by themselves have significant funding gaps.

ii. Threats to Sensitive Populations (9 points)

1. Health or Welfare of Sensitive Populations (3 points)

Drug use is an epidemic on the reservation and it's reducing the quality of life of our most sensitive members. More than 100 foster kids have been removed from their home as a result of meth use.¹⁶ What many believe unfathomable, drug users are selling their babies and daughters, to remain high. Mothers have been arrested for giving away their children for sexual favors in trade for drugs. In a two-week period in 2016, six newborn babies tested positive for meth and had to be taken to a hospital 300 miles away,¹⁷ as there is not a hospital nearby that can treat meth afflictions.

Due to the housing shortage, families are living in former meth cooking labs or places where meth was used, exposing members to an array of contaminants. No one legally lives in these homes, but due to the housing shortage, people have nowhere else to go, especially in the cold winters of northeast Montana. Just two years ago, a homeless couple was found frozen under a porch of a burned out home where they took shelter from a winter storm.¹⁸ We will not evict people from the boarded up homes in winter because the risk of dying of hypothermia is too great. Impacted homes selected for assessment and cleanup will be uninhabited to eliminate potential for exposure. Assessing and cleaning them up would provide containment-free housing to some of our most disadvantaged community members.

2. Greater Than Normal Incidence of Disease and Adverse Health Conditions (3 points)

Health disparities are seen at a young age on the reservation. For example, the teen birth rate on the reservation is five times the rate of Montana (162 compared to 32 per 100,000 people). In 2010,

¹¹ Smart Growth America. Technical Assistance for Sustainable Communities: Building Blocks Community: Fort Peck Assiniboiné and Sioux Tribes Tool: Smart Growth Implementation 101 Date: May 6-7, 2014

¹² Smart Growth America. Technical Assistance for Sustainable Communities: Building Blocks Community: Fort Peck Assiniboiné and Sioux Tribes Tool: Smart Growth Implementation 101 Date: May 6-7, 2014

¹³ Smart Growth America. Technical Assistance for Sustainable Communities: Building Blocks Community: Fort Peck Assiniboiné and Sioux Tribes Tool: Smart Growth Implementation 101 Date: May 6-7, 2014

¹⁴ http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_14_5YR_DP03&src=pt

¹⁵ https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/in-montana-an-indian-reservations-children-feel-the-impact-of-sequesters-cuts/2013/03/21/90b61722-916e-11e2-bdea-e32ad90da239_story.html?noredirect=on&utm_term=.f3d55f198316

¹⁶ https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/year-into-native-foster-care-court-most-kids-taken-from/article_d709c08a-b094-5ef2-b4f0-d5ff77b82762.html

¹⁷ Thompson Reuters Foundation. Fueled by drugs, sex trafficking reaches 'crisis' on Native American reservation. May 2016.

¹⁸ When the panhandler is your brother: Wolf Point confronts rising vagrancy. Great Falls Tribune. October 1, 2017

five seventh and eighth grade students committed suicide, and 20 of their classmates attempted it.¹⁹ Side effects of meth additions include aggressive and violent behavior and deficits in thinking and motor skills and could be a possible contributor to these numbers.²⁰

Meth may contribute to reduced life expectancies. American Indians on the reservation face a substantial disparity in life expectancy, with a median age of death 35 years less for males than Caucasian males and 28 years for females compared to Caucasian females. Moreover, American Indians on our reservation have a median age of death 10 to 15 years less than other American Indians in Montana.²¹ Meth can increase one's risk of stroke, which can cause irreversible damage to the brain and death.²² Stroke death rates for Montana American Indians are higher than Montana whites at 46 per 100,000 compared to 35 per 100,000.²³ Heart disease is also a long-term consequence of meth, and the rate of death from heart disease in Roosevelt County (located within the reservation) is more than double the rate of the rest of Montana (349 per 100,000 compared to 152 per 100,000).²⁴ While meth is the primary human health concern, residents may also be exposed to asbestos, a known cause of asbestosis, mesothelioma, and lung cancer, and lead associated with lead-based paint. Lead can spread in the body and cause health problems, especially to a fetus and to children. Even small amounts of lead can cause serious health problems, as it stored in organs, tissues, bones, and teeth.

3. Economically Impoverished/Disproportionately Impacted Populations (3 points)

In addition to being forced to live in contaminated homes, tribal members have historically borne the burden of contaminated drinking water. During the 1990's residents began to complain of a salty taste in their tap water, and a 2013 investigation discovered a release of wastewater brine into the drinking water supply. The wastewater contained benzene, a carcinogen, and our tribes have seen a cluster of high cancer rates as a result.²⁵ The brine water proceeded to contaminate the drinking water supply well for the town of Poplar. Most recently in April 2018, an oil spill released 90,000 barrels of brine water and 600 barrels of crude oil that contaminated a stock pond one-third mile away and left some Poplar residents without water for over three weeks.²⁶ While our grant will not directly address water quality issues, funding for this assessment grant will reduce the cumulative exposure risks to our members, and free up environmental department resources to address water quality issues.

b. Community Engagement (8 points)

i. Community Involvement (5 points)

Coordination with local community and tribal groups is essential for the success of our assessment grant. The following groups on the table below are committed to helping us collectively create safe, clean housing for our people.

¹⁹ <https://spotlightonpoverty.org/spotlight-exclusives/suicide-crisis-montana-beyond/>

²⁰ <https://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/research-reports/methamphetamine/what-are-long-term-effects-methamphetamine-abuse>

²¹ <https://mthcf.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Fort-Peck-CHA.pdf>

²² <https://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/research-reports/methamphetamine/what-are-long-term-effects-methamphetamine-abuse>

²³ https://mthcf.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/SHA-initial-findings-presentation_5.15.17.pdf

²⁴ <https://mthcf.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Fort-Peck-CHA.pdf>

²⁵ <https://www.colorlines.com/articles/montana-tribes-want-keystone-xl-away-their-drinking-water>

²⁶ https://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/montana/trucks-haul-tons-of-contaminated-soil-from-fort-peck-reservation/article_09f6ec97-2d2d-5f8e-8162-e64720d348a5.html

Project Community Partners		
Partner Name	Point of Contact	Specific Role in Project
Make Poplar Great Again	Frank Gourneau, 406-650-3004	Marketing our brownfields assessment program; spread the word about public meetings and updates on our program.
Tribal Health Department	Dennis Four Bear, 406-942-2413 d.fourbear@fortpecktribes.net	Tracking and evaluating health conditions and trends of individuals and groups that have been living in meth homes.
Fort Peck Housing Authority	Dr. Dean Bighorn, 406-768-3459	Identify vacant and burned homes; secure funding necessary for cleanup and renovation of homes; identify families to be placed in redeveloped housing.
Health Promotion, Disease Prevention (HPDP)	Kenny Smoker, 406-768-3052 (b) (6)	Share program information with youth and elderly in our community; evaluate positive and adverse health trends as a result of living in substandard housing.
Fort Peck Community College	Haven Gourneau, 406-768-3600 HGourneau@fpcc.edu	Designated community space for public meetings and outreach.
City of Poplar	Shane Halverson, 406-895-7953 (b) (6)	Reduced fees for waste disposal; help facilitate public meetings in town of Poplar.
City of Wolf Point	Ward Smith, 406-653-1852	Reduced fees for waste disposal; help facilitate public meetings in town of Wolf Point.

ii. Incorporating Community Input (3 points)

Community involvement is very important to our tribes and members. As a testament to our commitment to community outreach, our office held a public meeting on January 16, 2019 to present this assessment grant application and its purpose, even though a public meeting isn't required for the application. If funded, a Community Involvement Plan will be developed as part of the cooperative work plan for this grant. In general, we will seek community input throughout the project, including four public meetings that explain the assessments to be done, assessment results, and to brief the community on next steps for cleanup planning and abatement. Two educational fact sheets will be developed to explain the assessment process and the abatement process. All meetings will be conducted in English. Some tribal residents can speak their native language, but English is the primary language, and communication difficulties are not expected. As a part of all community outreach, residents will be encouraged to provide verbal and/or written input to either our office. Input will be considered at our brownfields staff meetings, and we will respond to comments or concerns in writing or with a one-on-one stakeholder meeting.

3. Task Descriptions, Cost Estimates, and Measuring Progress (35 Points)

a. Description of Tasks and Activities (15 points)

Contractor Procurement (Fort Peck Tribes Lead) - Within three months of award, the Tribal Office of Environmental Protection (OEP) will issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP). The RFP will be based on our approved EPA workplan and grant deliverables. Submitted proposals will be reviewed and scored by a Brownfields Committee, and they will select the firm that best meets the selection criteria as outlined in the RFP.

Cooperative Agreement Oversight (Fort Peck Tribes Lead) – The Tribes will be responsible for hiring an environmental contractor; updating the Tribal Council on progress quarterly; working with the Fort Peck Housing Authority; coordinating with EPA; updating Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES) quarterly; preparing 12 EPA quarterly reports; facilitating site access; attending tribal Brownfields conferences; and general grant management.

Community Outreach (Fort Peck Tribes Lead) – We will lead the outreach, with support from our QEP, to prepare a brochure about our program; create two educational fact sheets; meet with concerned citizens; maintain Brownfields information in our office; share information with local newspapers; hold interviews with the local radio station; and hold 4 public meetings to update our communities on progress. Each quarter, we will meet with the Housing Authority to make sure we are assessing homes that continue to create the most opportunities for new housing.

Site Assessment (QEP Lead) – Assessments will begin 6 months after award date. We will utilize our existing EPA approved Quality Assurance Project Plan. We will prepare Sampling & Analysis Plans for each site to be assessed. The selected QEP will assist us with the development of a site eligibility form to be submitted to EPA for review. With our assessment grant funds, we plan to complete 20 Sampling and Analysis Plans; 20 Phase II hazardous substance assessments; 20 Reports of Findings; and compare site data to cleanup standards.

Cleanup Planning (QEP Lead) – The QEP will be responsible for identifying cleanup options and costs; identifying redevelopment options based on site data and community input; and working with the tribes on a cleanup plan. Cleanup plans for at least 20 homes will be completed.

b. Cost Estimates and Outputs

i. Cost Estimates (10 points)

The following table shows the proposed grant budget. As shown below, approximately 90% of our grant funds will go toward community outreach, site assessments, and cleanup planning.

PROJECT BUDGET					
Budget Categories	Project Tasks				
(Hazardous Substance Funds)	Cooperative Agreement Oversight	Community Outreach	Site Assessment	Cleanup Planning	Total
Personnel	\$18,000	\$6,000			\$24,000
Fringe Benefits	\$5,400	\$1,800			\$7,200
Travel	\$5,200				\$5,200
Supplies	\$500				\$500
Contractual		\$13,000	\$220,100	\$30,000	\$263,100
Total Direct Costs	\$29,100	\$20,800	\$220,100	\$30,000	\$300,000
Total Indirect Costs	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
OVERALL TOTAL	\$29,100	\$ 20,800	\$220,100	\$30,000	\$300,000

The following explains how costs shown in the Project Budget table were developed. Outputs are denoted with an asterisk (*).

Personnel – Personnel costs were calculated at a rate of \$30/hour time 600 hours = \$18,000. Community outreach was estimated at \$30/hour times 200 hours for a total of \$6,000. Personnel costs will allow us to complete outputs such as: hiring an environmental contractor*; updating the Tribal Council on progress quarterly*; meeting with the Fort Peck Housing Authority quarterly*; updating Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES) quarterly*; and preparing 12 EPA quarterly reports* during the three-year grant cycle.

Fringe Benefits – Fringe benefits were calculated at a rate of 30% of personnel expense.

Travel – Travel was based on travel to two tribal Brownfields conferences* and two regional tribal conferences* for one employee. *National conference*: \$1,600 per conference = \$3,200. *Regional tribal conference*: \$1,000 per person for 2 conferences = \$2,000.

Supplies: Supplies were estimated at \$500 for paper printing costs for brochures* and 2 fact sheets* about our Brownfields program.

Contractual: Contractual costs for community outreach were estimated at \$1,000/public meeting times 4 meetings = \$4,000 total*. An additional \$1,000 was set aside for assistance with preparing 2 fact sheets* (\$500/each) and \$1,000 to create a programmatic brochure*. The remaining \$7,000 is budgeted for the QEP's assistance with meetings with the Fort Peck Housing Authority* and hold one-on-one meetings with concerned stakeholders. Site assessments were calculated as follows: 20 Hazardous Substance Phase II EAs* at \$11,590 each = \$231,800; Cleanup plans* for all 20 homes are estimated at \$1,500/home, for a total of \$30,000.

c. Measuring Environmental Results (5 points)

We are committed to the work described above within the three-year grant cycle; not only because we want to comply with our cooperative agreement with EPA, but because it is imperative to address this humanitarian and human health problem by remediating these homes. The outputs we anticipate with this grant include number of 20 homes assessed, 4 public and 10 landowner meetings held, 4 fact sheets produced, and 3 grants applied for and secured to remediate and redevelopment the homes. In order to achieve our desired outputs on the homes assessed, we will need to assess approximately 2 homes quarterly. To be efficient and reduce mobilization costs, we plan to ask our QEP to assess 5 homes per mobilization, which will allow us to reach our goals in less time and with less cost. Final outcomes of the project would include homes slated for remediation and leasing, fewer families on the housing waiting list, more residents owning homes, leveraged funding for redevelopment, a reduction in environmental risks, and 20 homes free from lead, asbestos and/or meth residues. Progress will be tracked and recorded quarterly in our progress reports to EPA. Any obstacles that arise will be reported to our EPA Project Officer.

4. Programmatic Capability and Past Performance (15 Points)

a. Programmatic Capability (9 points)

i. Organizational Structure (5 points)

The Tribal Office of Environmental Protection (OEP) will administer all aspects of the grant. The OEP opened in 1981 and has grown considerably in size and scope of work. Originally, OEP worked on air quality programs. Today, we have six programs and 12 full-time staff who work mainly on monitoring, compliance assistance, and regulatory and enforcement activities. The Tribes and OEP are leaders in environmental work on reservations through programs such as: Air Quality; Water Quality 106, where we were the second tribe in Region 8 to develop water quality standards including biological standards; Underground Injection Control, where we were the first tribe in the US approved for UIC primacy in 2008; Non-Point Source, where we were the first tribe in our region to create approved Management and Assessment Plan for Non-Point Sources on the reservation; General Assistance Program; Underground Storage Tanks; Pesticide Inspector FIFRA; LUST; and, Brownfields Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program.

Ms. Deb Madison, the proposed manager for the EPA Assessment Grant program, has more than 31 years of experience directing the OEP. She is the primary individual responsible for implementing the programs described above. Ms. Madison has administered more than \$20 million in federal funding and will be responsible for grant oversight. She will ensure that all workplan items are fulfilled by dedicating approximately 15% of her time to oversight of the project.

The Brownfields Coordinator, Mr. Wilfred Lambert, has managed our Brownfields Program for 11 years. He has overseen the completion of all of the brownfield assessments and cleanup projects completed to date. Mr. Lambert currently manages our EPA Cleanup Grant for the Poplar Sludge Pit Project as well as funding received through our annual allotment of Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program. Mr. Lambert is trained to conduct Phase I and Phase II Site Inspections, and has completed OSHA 40-hour Hazwoper training. He will be responsible for inventorying sites, communicating with tribal leadership and EPA regarding progress, reporting, and ensuring that milestones are met within the three-year period of performance. With this grant, OEP intends to hire an additional brownfields specialist on a part-time basis to assist Mr. Lambert.

ii. Acquiring Additional Resources (4 points)

Environmental expertise will be contracted to support certain public involvement functions, conduct Phase I and Phase II assessments, and prepare cleanup plans. All contracts for this program will be completed and consistent with applicable and competitive Procurement Standards in 40 CFR Parts 30 or 31. The Tribes have an established procurement department to oversee the hiring of contractors to complete the work, supported by the TERO Compliance Officer and the Brownfields Coordinator.

b. Past Performance and Accomplishments (6 points)

i. Currently Has or Previously Received an EPA Brownfields Grant (6 points)

1. Accomplishments (3 points)

OEP has had a Brownfields Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program since 2003 and has received and managed EPA Brownfields Grants since 2005. Outputs include: 28 Phase I EAs; 13 Phase II

EAs; 4 cleanup actions; and, a Brownfields Inventory Tool (BIT) database. Outcomes include: participation on the County Drug Task Force; environmental oversight on cleanups conducted by other tribal programs; community outreach events such as Earth Day, career day, and the recycling “Paint Exchange” program. The remaining grant balance is approximately \$18,000.

In 2011, the Tribes received a \$200,000 Cleanup Grant to remediate the Former Poplar Airport Project. With this grant, we successfully remediated the site, including excavation and land treatment of 850 yards of petroleum-contaminated soils, and excavation and disposal of pesticide- and lead-contaminated soils. Outcomes included: 100 acres unencumbered and ready for construction to begin in 2019; prevention of groundwater contamination of Poplar water supply; and, relationship development with the Carroll College planning department for projects on the Fort Peck Reservation. All cleanup work was completed and this grant was successfully closed out with coordination with EPA.

In 2017, the Tribes received a \$200,000 Cleanup Grant to remediate the Poplar Sludge Pit. To date, a QEP has been hired, a Cleanup Plan has been developed and approved by EPA, bid specifications were developed, and the project went out to bid in compliance with EPA guidelines. Unfortunately, bids were too high to hire an earthwork contractor. The Tribes plan to put the project out to bid in Spring 2019, believed to be a more favorable bidding time than last fall. Expected outputs and outcomes include: Excavation of 900 cubic yards of oil sludge; prevention of groundwater impacts; protection of area residents and children accessing the Poplar River for recreation; and, the development of a new rail spur to serve businesses located in the Poplar Industrial Park. Total expended on the grant through December 2018 is \$32,288, leaving a grant balance of \$167,712.

2. Compliance with Grant Requirements (3 points)

Each quarter, we refer to the grant workplan and timeline to assure that goals for that quarter are achieved. If a workplan item scheduled for that quarter was not achieved, we develop a plan with our EPA Project Officer to complete that item. To date, we have submitted quarterly reports on time, and have updated the ACRES database to reflect grant achievements. We have closely followed and complied with our workplans, grant schedules and terms and conditions for our 2011 and 2017 cleanup grants.

Attachment A

Statement of Applicant Eligibility

**FORT PECK TRIBES
FY19 EPA BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT GRANT
Threshold Criteria**

Statement of Applicant Eligibility

Fort Peck Indian Reservation was established in 1871 to serve the Assiniboiné and Sioux Indians. As a federally recognized Indian Tribe, we are eligible to receive U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant funding.

Attachment B

Description of Community Involvement

**FORT PECK TRIBES
FY19 EPA BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT GRANT
Threshold Criteria**

Community Involvement

Community involvement is very important to our tribes and members. As a testament to our commitment to community outreach, our office held a public meeting on January 16, 2019 to present this assessment grant application and explain its purpose to the public, even though a public meeting isn't required by EPA for assessment grant applications. If funded, a Community Involvement Plan will be developed as part of the cooperative work plan for this grant. We will educate our citizens and provide opportunities to learn more about the brownfields program and provide a forum to address concerns.

In general, we will seek community input throughout the project, including four public meetings that explain the assessments to be done, assessment results, and to brief the community on next steps for cleanup planning and abatement. Public meetings will be held at the Fort Peck Community College, senior centers, tribal council meetings, and in the town of Wolf Point. Two educational fact sheets will be developed to explain the assessment process and the abatement process. A one-page brochure will be developed about our brownfields program. We will work with our local newspapers, the Wolf Point Herald and the Fort Peck Indian Reservation Journal, to provide information and updates on progress made on specific assessment sites. We will also give interviews to the local radio station, Rezcast Radio, on updates and progress. As a part of all community outreach, residents will be encouraged to provide verbal and/or written input to either our office. Input will be considered at our brownfields staff meetings, and we will respond to comments or concerns in writing or with a one-on-one stakeholder meeting.

The following actions outline the Fort Peck Tribes' community outreach efforts under this grant:

1. Community Outreach Plan
2. Prepare educational fact sheets about the assessment and cleanup processes
3. Create a brownfields program brochure
4. Work closely with the Tribal government
5. Engage local newspapers and radio station
6. Hold public meetings and one-on-one meetings with interested stakeholders

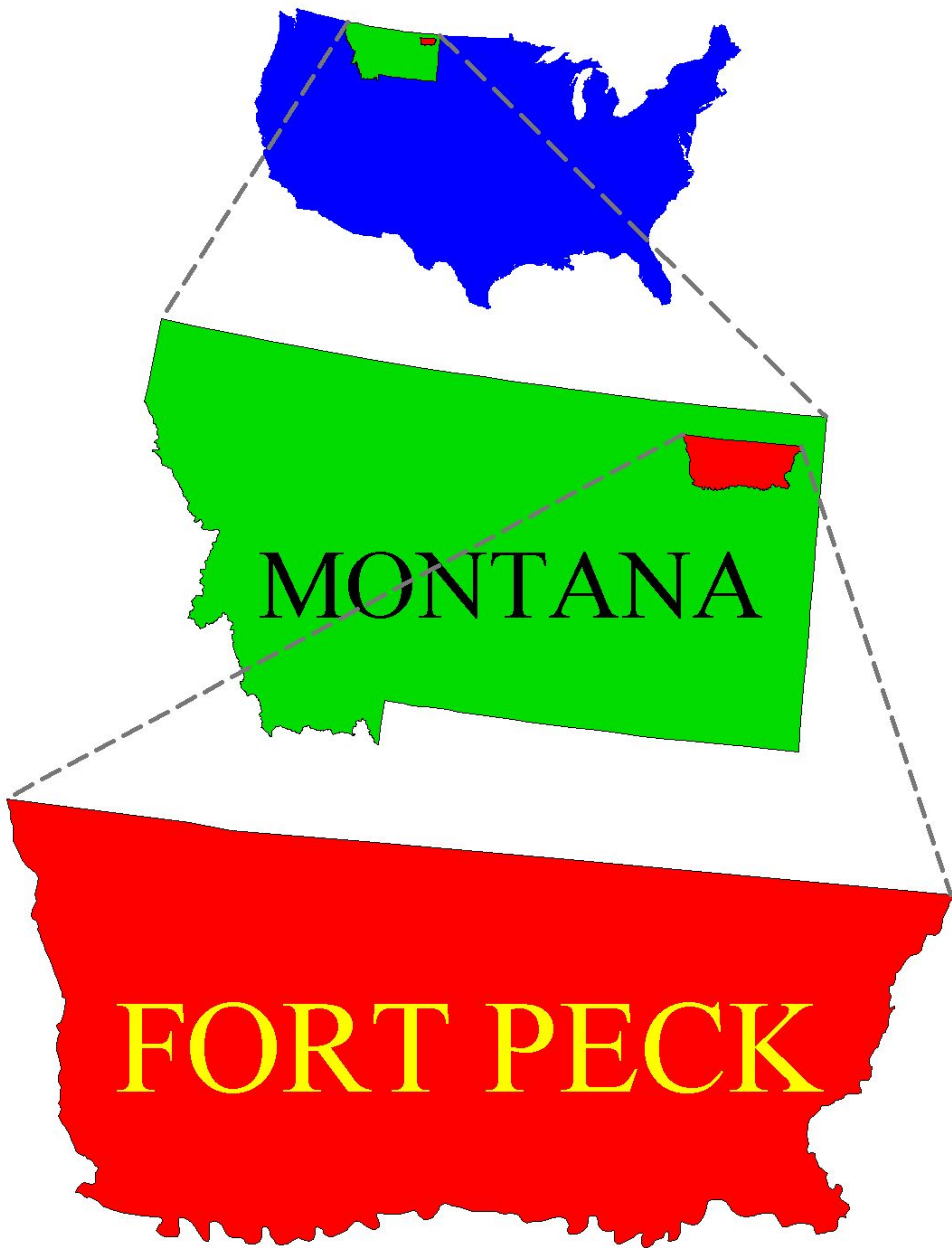
Attachment C

Affirmative Statement Applicant Has No Assessment Grant

**FORT PECK TRIBES
FY19 EPA BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT GRANT
Threshold Criteria**

Affirmative Statement

We, the Assiniboine and Sioux Indian Tribes, also known as the Fort Peck Tribes, affirm that we do not have an active EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant.



Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 1. Type of Submission:

- ☐ Preapplication
☐ Application
☒ Changed/Corrected Application

* 2. Type of Application:

- ☒ New
☐ Continuation
☐ Revision

* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):

* Other (Specify):

* 3. Date Received:

01/31/2019

4. Applicant Identifier:

106578164

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

Montana

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

* a. Legal Name:

Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes

* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):

* c. Organizational DUNS:

(b) (6)

d. Address:

* Street1:

501 Medicine Bear Road

Street2:

P.O. Box 1027

* City:

Poplar

County/Parish:

Roosevelt

* State:

MT: Montana

Province:

* Country:

USA: UNITED STATES

* Zip / Postal Code:

59255-1027

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

Environmental Protection

Division Name:

Brownfields

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:

Mr.

* First Name:

Wilfred

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Lambert

Suffix:

Title: Brownfields Coordinator

Organizational Affiliation:

* Telephone Number:

406-768-2322

Fax Number:

406-768-5363

* Email:

wlambert@fortpecktribes.net

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

I: Indian/Native American Tribal Government (Federally Recognized)

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

* 10. Name of Federal Agency:

Environmental Protection Agency

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

66.818

CFDA Title:

Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Cooperative Agreements

* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:

EPA-OLEM-OBLR-18-06

* Title:

FY19 GUIDELINES FOR BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT GRANTS

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

1234-fort peck color index.jpg

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

To address the housing shortage on the reservation and reduce contaminant exposure by assessing at least 20 homes on the Fort Peck Reservation.

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**16. Congressional Districts Of:**

* a. Applicant

MT01

* b. Program/Project

MT01

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date:

10/01/2019

* b. End Date:

09/30/2022

18. Estimated Funding (\$):

* a. Federal	300,000.00
* b. Applicant	0.00
* c. State	0.00
* d. Local	0.00
* e. Other	0.00
* f. Program Income	0.00
* g. TOTAL	300,000.00

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**☐ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on .☐ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.☒ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**☐ Yes☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)**

☒ ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix:

Mr.

* First Name:

Wilfred

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Lambert

Suffix:

* Title:

Brownfields Coordinator

* Telephone Number:

406-768-2322

Fax Number:

406-768-5363

* Email:

wlambert@fortpecktribe.net

* Signature of Authorized Representative:

Floyd G Azure

* Date Signed:

01/31/2019